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Notes on United States Parishes by Charlotte Michaud

Charlotte Michaud

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Not all of these parishes conduct services entirely in French, but many of them still do, with the addition of some services in English. It is to be noted, however, that all of these parishes ^{always} had ^{assistants} pastors or ~~priests~~ who speak French as well as English, and they still do.

~~Until 1822, the parish of St. Peter and Paul~~ Despite all these parishes that ~~are~~ grew out of its original area, SS. Peter and Paul's increased in membership annually, (the largest in all New England States.) until it numbered 4,000 families for several years. It is only in comparatively recent years, due to encroachment of commercial enterprises within its confines and the removal of residential buildings, that membership has begun to decrease, and may continue to do so.

It is still a large parish in which an individual can pass unnoticed. This situation caused a loss of parish-spirit through the years. Parish organizations brought a certain number together to serve in religious and philanthropic services, but many paid dues and never attended sessions, and some never joined.

Long ago, parish priests ^{of SS Peter and Paul's} had to abandon the close contact they had had with their parishioners in the early years, because of the increasing ~~territorial~~ demands of their religious duties. It ~~was~~ common for parishioners ~~not even to be~~ ^{unable to identify their} ~~know the names of~~ the parish priests--the pastor, yes, but not the assistants... ^{has become} more

April 25 copy corrections mailed to Dorris

page 3--first line--it is preferable to write Beauce County,Que., than
Beauce County,Canada.

page 4--last paragraph--take out 1860's as date of great migration. They
started coming in 1860,but 10 years after only numbered 1,000 Three years
later, the had increased another 1,000; and, after 1873 (when Gran, Trunk
station was opened in Lewiston) they arrived at the rate of about 1,000 a
year until turn of century.

Therefore, I think it would be preferable to have copy read:

SS.Peter and Paul parish records, covering 100 years of this mother-
church for both Lewiston and Auburn, show a great influx of these migrants
during the (take out 1860's) latter part of the 19th century.

Thanks

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